

Telephone providers (land-based & wireless) should include their federal regulatory fees in the monthly rates so consumers may know what their monthly bill will be, and not include them as a fixed monthly surcharge added to their telephone bills. In this way, we can better judge what their competitive pricing is, instead of getting unadvertised charges after the fact. For instance, Qwest includes a \$6.30 charge under the name "Federal Access Charge" to cover "part of the cost for providing access to and maintenance of the local network". I call this a "cost of doing business" and should be reflected in the regular monthly charges and not as a non-advertised surcharge!